There were serious allegations of financial and other misdeeds, insinuations of a conspiracy involving certain insurgent groups of a foreign country and allegations of attempts to stonewall the CBI investigations which the Government had ordered. Such matters only only have implications on our national security but also on our relations with friendly neighbouring countries. It is against this background that evaluation of inputs received through such intelligence reports at the Government level and consultation with other agencies concerned was considered appropriate in order to avoid any adverse fall out. Accordingly, an advice was issued on 27 July 1998 to the Service Hqrs that any precipitate action on the basis of such intelligence reports should be taken only with the prior permission of the Government. Subsequently, after proper appraisal of the situation at the Government level, further instructions were issued to the Service HQrs on 8th August 1998 authorising them to intercept or seize the vessel, about which reports were received, if the same was found to have entered the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone. It will be pertinent to mention that the operation in February 1998 was also carried out with the approval of the Government at appropriate level.

Illegal fishing by Pakistani trawlers

163. SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistani trawlers are still fishing illegally in Indian territorial wa ters, off the Gujarat coast;

(b) if so, the details of such cases reported during each of the last three years;

(c) the action taken against such Pakistani trawlers; and

(d) the details of steps taken to check such illegal fishing along the coastal areas?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Pakistani trawlers illegally fishing in our territorial waters continue to be apprehended.

(b) The details are as under:

Year	Number of cases
1996	8
1997	6
1998	7

(c) The apprehended trawlers have been handed over to the police for appropriate legal action under the MZI Act and the Rules thereunder. From time to time the apprehended Pakistani vessels along with the crew are exchanged for the Indian fishing boats and crew apprehended by Pakistan Maritime Safety Agency.

(d) All Indian Naval and Coast Guard ships have been provided with lists of trawlers authorised to fish in our waters. Any suspicious trawlers encountered by our ships on passage are checked for authorisation. Regular patrolling is being under taken by Naval and Coast Guard ships/aircraft all along the coast to check illegal fishing. The Coast Guard conducts regular sea-air coordinated surveillance in the areas where illegal fishing takes place.

रक्षा-कर्मियों का कोर्ट-मार्शल

164. **श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावत** : क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षो के दौरान कितने रक्षा-कर्मियों का कोर्ट-मार्शल किया गया तथा उन से कितनों को दंडित किया गया,

(ख) ऐसे कुल कितने मामले विभिन्न न्यायालयों में लंबित हैं जिनमें रखा कर्मियों ने सेवा संबंधी मामलों में रक्षा प्राशासन के निर्णयों के विरूद्ध कार्रवाई की, और

(ग) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान, उनमें से कितने मामलों में न्यायालय ने रक्षा कर्मियों के पक्ष में निर्णय दिए ?